



NEWSLETTER



May 2012

Owyhee County FSA Office

USDA Service Center
Owyhee County FSA
250 N. Bruneau Hwy.
Marsing, ID 83639

Ph. 208-896-4384 ext. 2
Fax: 208-896-4016
www.fsa.usda.gov/id

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

*2012 County Committee
Meetings will be held as
needed once each quarter
the third Tuesday of the
month in the USDA
Service Center
Conference Room
Call for Exact Dates*

FSA Staff

Anita Johnston
CED
Gwen Miller
PT

Lora Ulrich
Loan Manager
(208)454-8695
Ext 102

County Committee:

Dan Mori
Martin Jaca
Kathy Smith

DCP/ACRE Sign-Up Deadline June 1 Make an Appointment Today

Enrollment for the 2012 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) will continue through June 1, 2012.

We are encouraging producers to call and make an appointment to sign-up for DCP as soon as they have all their crops planted. Due to a tight budget we have been limited with the number of post cards that we can mail, so if you have not received an appointment post card please give us a call and we will get you scheduled. Calling before coming in will help us have maps and contracts prepared so sign-up can be completed quickly. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign-up or visit any USDA Service Center to complete the 2012 DCP contract.

New Crop Reporting Deadline

Producers need to report Fall Seeded and Perennial Crops no later than June 30 and Spring Seeded Crops no later than July 15th. This is a change from the standard June 30 reporting date for all crops. The annual, timely and accurate reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program, Marketing Assistance Loans, Loan Deficiency Payments and various Insurance and Disaster Programs. **REMINDER: Planting dates are required to file a crop report**

Crop reports — form FSA-578, Report of Acreage — must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted.

2013 & subsequent crop year reporting deadlines will also change as follows.

November 15th: Apiculture, PRF

December 15th: Fall Alfalfa Seed, Fall Barley, Fall Canola, Dry Peas, Fall Mint, Fall Wheat, and all other Fall-Seeded Small Grains

January 15th: Apples, Cherries, Fresh Apricots, Fresh Freestone Peaches, Fresh Nectarines, Grapes, Plums

July 15th: Spring Alfalfa Seed, Spring Barley, Spring Canola, Corn, Dry Beans, Dry Peas, Flax, Green Peas, Spring Mint, Mustard, Oats, Onions, Potatoes, Processing Beans, Safflower, Sugar Beets, Sweet Corn, Spring Wheat, and all other crops

GovDelivery – Free Reminders

The USDA Farm Service Agency offices are moving into paperless operation to save your tax payer dollars. Producers can now enroll in the new **GovDelivery** system to receive instant electronic deadline reminders, bulletins and newsletters direct to your email address. Now you don't have to wait for a printed newsletter only occasionally sent through the mail.

Producers can subscribe to receive free e-mail updates by visiting this free enrollment website: www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe. You can also call your local Farm Service Agency office. Give it a try right now. All you need is an email address for yourself or a family member where you can receive the useful email updates.

ACRE Program

The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) offers producers an alternative to Direct and Counter-Cyclical (DCP) payments. The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the five-year state Olympic average yield and the two-year national average price.

ACRE payments are made when both state- and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. Producers also agree to receive a 20 percent reduction in direct payments and a 30 percent reduction in loan rates.

NOTICE TO HISPANIC AND/OR WOMEN FARMERS OR RANCHERS

COMPENSATION FOR CLAIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: www.farmerclaims.gov

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

MILC Program

FSA's Milk Income Loss Contract Program (MILC) compensates dairy producers when domestic milk prices fall below a specified level. MILC payments are made when the Boston Class I milk price falls below \$16.94 per hundredweight (cwt) as adjusted by the dairy feed ration adjustment. The monthly Boston price is posted online at:

http://www.fmmone.com/Northeast_Order_Prices/NE_Prices_main_new.htm.

Eligible producers should submit the current MILC (Milk Income Loss Contract) statements for payment. Eligibility for 2012 must be completed before payments can be disbursed. Please contact the office to check the status of your eligibility. New producers are encouraged to apply for the program any time before Sept. 30, 2012.

County Committee Nominations

The County Committee nomination period runs from June 15, 2012 through August 1, 2012. For detailed information contact your local FSA office. This year's open position will be in LAA 2 (Reynolds Creek, Murphy, Oreana & Jordan Valley areas.) This position is currently held by Martin Jaca from Reynolds Creek.

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to ensure FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

NAP Records

Production records for individual crops need to be filed at the FSA office to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year you participated in NAP, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield up-to-date. Records submitted must be reliable or verifiable. Records need to show crop disposition. We recommend producers submit production records as soon as harvest is complete. **All production records must be submitted by the subsequent crop year's final acreage reporting date.**

NAP Loss Filing

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for all crops including grasses. For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

Adjusted Gross Income

USDA and the Internal Revenue Service have established an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent is required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to FSA.

This ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments and; \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Continued on Page 3 Adjusted Gross Income

Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-931 to their local FSA County Office to avoid interruption of program benefits. This form may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices.

Farm Reconstitutions

At FSA, farms are “constituted” to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. If an owner or operator cannot agree about program participation, like in the case of the new ACRE program, then producers should inquire about a reconstitution of the farm at the local FSA office.

The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by Aug. 1, 2012, for farms enrolled in specific programs.

Conservation Compliance (HEL & Wetland)

Producers intending to bring new land into production, remove fence rows, convert woodlots to cropland, install new drainage, or improve or modify existing drainage, must notify the FSA and update Form AD-1026. FSA will notify NRCS and NRCS will make HEL and wetland technical determinations. Farmers with HEL determined soils are reminded of tillage, crop residue and rotation requirements per their conservation plan. Failure to obtain ADVANCE approval for any of these situations can result in the loss of eligibility and all federal payments.

Measurement Service

Farmers who would like a guarantee on their crop plantings and land use acreages can make it official by using the FSA measurement service. Producers must file a request with the county office staff and pay the cost of a field visit to have stake and referencing done on the farm. Measurement service is available using digital imagery. If an on-site visit is not required producers are charged a reduced rate.

Incorrect acreage self-certification can result in reduced program payments, penalty or loss of eligibility.

Producers can request ortho-imagery and CLU covering their land (commonly referred to as a clip) at no charge. This would provide the acreage of an entire field.

2010 SURE Sign-Up Deadline

Sign-up for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payment (SURE) program for the 2010 crop year began Nov. 14, 2011, and will end on June 1, 2012. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. A farm is eligible when either:

- A portion of the farm is located in a county, or a contiguous county, covered by a qualifying Secretarial disaster declaration.
- An overall loss greater than 50 percent of the actual production on the farm compared to expected production for the farm for that year.

For producers to be eligible for SURE, they must have obtained a policy or plan of insurance for all crops through either the Federal Crop Insurance Act or FSA's Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). Producers must suffer a 10 percent production loss due to a natural disaster to at least one crop of economic significance on their farm in order to be eligible for SURE

Proposed Office Consolidation

There has not been a final decision made about the proposed Office consolidation with Canyon/Ada County. This decision is scheduled to be released around the first of June. All producers in the county will be notified with a letter with information on their options if the consolidation is approved.

Missed Spray Day? No Worry

NOCWMA – weed management.

If you missed spray day – no worries. Chemicals are still available for noxious weeds. Call preferably between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon, 896-4544 ext 102 Gina or ext 110 Diane. Spring Target weed: white top, thistles, perennial pepper weed and other noxious weeds.

Gina Millard, Admin. Asst.
NOCWMA/OCD
Marsing, Idaho

Owyhee County FSA
250 N. Bruneau Hwy
Marsing, ID 83639



PRESORTED STANDARD
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Farm Loan Programs

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. Those producers who are having trouble getting credit for their farm or who regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Ask a lender about an FSA loan guarantee to help with a setback or if a lender has been reluctant to extend or renew a loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000. This makes the maximum combination of direct and guaranteed loan indebtedness \$1,514,000.

The one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans has increased from 1 percent to 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan, for loans obligated after Oct. 1, 2011.

To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact Lora Ulrich Farm Loan Manager at (208)454-8695.

Selected Interest Rates for May 2012	
Farm Operating - Direct	1.5%
Farm Ownership - Direct	3.5%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.5%
Emergency	3.75%
Farm Storage Facility – 7 year	1.5%

Dates to Remember	
May 28	Memorial Day, Federal Offices Closed
June 1	2012 DCP/ACRE Enrollment closes
June 1	SURE Sign up ends
June 15	COC Nomination Period Opens
June 30	Crop Report Deadline Fall Seeded & Perennial Crops
July 15	Crop Report Deadline Spring Seeded Crops
Aug. 1	Last Day to file COC nomination form